

## Message Text

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SUBJECT:US-USSR ENVIRONMENTAL AGREEMENT, 02.05-21  
PROTECTION OF NORTHERN ECOSYSTEMS

1. REQUEST EMBASSY PASS FOLLOWING DATED APRIL 12 TO  
DR. E.E. SEROECHKOVSKY, CENTRAL LABORATORY FOR NATURE  
CONSERVATION, USSR MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE WITH COPY TO  
KAZAKOV, HYDROMET.

2. 02.05-21 APRIL 12,1977

DR. E. E. SEROECHKOVSKY  
CENTRAL LABORATORY FOR NATURE CONSERVATION  
USSR MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE  
MOSCOW, USSR

DEAR EVGENY EVGENEEVICH:  
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DURING THE XIIIITH INTERNATIONAL GAME BIOLOGISTS' CONGRESS  
IN ATLANTA MARCH 10-19, MR. HAROLD T. JORGENSEN AND  
MS. RAISA SRIABINE MET WITH MR. ALEXANDER BORODIN AND  
MS. LUDMILLA BOLSHOVA TO REVIEW ARRANGEMENTS FOR COOPERA-  
TIVE ACTIVITES FOR PROJECT 02.05-21 SCHEDULED TO TAKE PLACE  
THIS YEAR. I WOULD LIKE BRIEFLY TO REVIEW THEM.

3. ACTIVITY 02.05-2101 - STRUCTURE, FUNCTION AND  
PRODUCTIVITY OF TUNDRA AND TAIGA ECOSYSTEMS.

(A) THE US SIDE IS READY TO RECEIVE TWO SOVIET SPECIALISTS FOR JOINT FLORISTIC STUDIES IN ALASKA FOR 30 DAYS IN JULY. THE US SIDE HOPES THAT DR. BORIS YURTSEV OF THE KOMAROV INSTITUTE WILL BE ABLE TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS VISIT. DRS. KONTRIMAVICHUS AND WEST ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR ARRANGEMENTS. PLEASE INDICATE NAMES OF SOVIET SPECIALISTS AND DATES OF ARRIVAL AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

(B) THE US SIDE IS READY TO SEND TO THE USSR TWO US SPECIALISTS ON TUNDRA ECOSYSTEMS IN THE THIRD QUARTER OF 1977 FOR WORK IN THE MAGADAN REGION. THE SPECIALISTS FROM THE US SIDE ARE STEVEN MACLEAN, UNIVERSITY OF ALASKA, FAIRBANKS, FOR 2-3 WEEKS; STEVEN PIPER, UNIVERSITY OF ALASKA FOR 2 MONTHS. KEN PHILLIPS WILL BE AN EXCHANGE VISITOR FOR 2 MONTHS UNDER US AND USSR ACADEMY OF SCIENCES ARRANGEMENTS. DRS. KONTRIMAVICHUS AND WEST ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR ARRANGEMENTS.

(C) THE US SIDE IS READY TO RECEIVE ONE SOVIET SPECIALIST TO WORK IN ALASKA FOR ONE YEAR ON SOIL PROCESSES IN TAIGA ECOSYSTEMS. THE VISIT SHOULD BEGIN IN MAY IN ORDER TO TAKE FULL ADVANTAGE 1977 FIELD SEASON. US SIDE UNDERSTANDS THAT SOVIET SPECIALIST MAY BE DR. PUGACHEV. DR. KONTRIMAVICHUS AND WEST WILL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR ARRANGEMENTS.

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(D) THE MEMORANDUM OF THE JOINT COMMITTEE INDICATES THAT THE US SIDE WOULD SEND ONE SPECIALIST TO THE BIOLOGICAL INSTITUTE IN YAKUTSK TO STUDY THE ADAPTATION OF ANIMALS TO THE COLD, IF THE SOVIET SIDE FINDS IT POSSIBLE TO RECEIVE HIM. REGRETFULLY, THE US SIDE WILL BE UNABLE TO SEND SPECIALIST THIS YEAR.

(E) THE US SIDE IS READY TO RECEIVE UP TO THREE SOVIET SPECIALISTS FROM HYDROMET IN ALASKA FOR ONE MONTH IN THE THIRD QUARTER. PLEASE INDICATE NAMES OF PARTICIPANTS, THEIR INTERESTS AND TIMES OF TRAVEL FOR PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. DR. CHARLES SLAUGHTER WILL MAKE ARRANGEMENTS TO RECEIVE SOVIET DELEGATION IN ALASKA. REPORT ON US TECHNICAL EXCHANGE VISIT LAST YEAR IN FINAL STATE OF PREPARATION.

4. ACTIVITY A-2 02.05-2102, BIOLOGICAL INDICATORS OF ENVIRONMENTAL CHANGE.

(A) THE US SIDE HAS COMPILED AND TRANSMITTED AN INITIAL LIST OF PLANT INVADERS IN A DISTURBED AREA AT CAPE THOMPSON. THE SOVIET SIDE HAS INDICATED IT WILL BE SENDING THE US SIDE LISTS OF PLANT INVADERS FOR CERTAIN NORTHERN AREAS. IT WOULD BE APPRECIATED IF THE SOVIET SIDE WOULD FORWARD THOSE LISTINGS.

(B) THE US SIDE CAN RECEIVE TWO-THREE SOVIET SPECIALISTS FOR 15 DAYS IN JULY 1977 TO COINCIDE WITH YURTSEV 30-DAY VISIT TO ALASKA. WE UNDERSTAND THAT THE SOVIET SIDE DESIRES TO COMBINE VISITS OF SOVIET SPECIALISTS UNDER A-1 AND A-2 INTO ONE DELEGATION THAT WOULD CONSIST OF FOUR-FIVE PERSONS. WE FIND SUCH AN ARRANGEMENT ACCEPTABLE BUT WOULD LIKE TO ENCOURAGE THE PARTICIPATION OF DR. YURTSEV IN SUCH A DELEGATION. PLEASE NOTIFY US SIDE BY MAY 1 AS TO WHO WILL TRAVEL AND THE APPROXIMATE DATES OF UNCLASSIFIED

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ANTICIPATED VISIT.

(C) JERRY BROWN HAS ORGANIZED A COMPREHENSIVE RESEARCH PROGRAM ALONG ALASKA PIPELINE HAUL ROAD, AND ELSEWHERE IN NORTHERN ALASKA. THIS PROGRAM INCLUDES INVESTIGATIONS OF WEEDS AND WEEDY VEGETATION ALONG THE YUKON RIVER - PRUDHOE BAY HAUL ROAD; STUDY OF UNDISTURBED VEGETATION ALONG LATITUDINAL GRADIENT OF HAUL ROAD AND EFFECTS OF HIGHWAY CONSTRUCTION AND OPERATION ON THE NATURAL VEGETATION; FLORISTIC DOCUMENTATION ALONG THE HAUL ROAD INCLUDING ATTENTION TO RARE AND ENDANGERED SPECIES, SPECIAL LIMESTONE FLORA; AND FIELD TESTING OF CLASSIFICATION SYSTEM OF TUNDRA VEGETATION; INVESTIGATION OF SOIL INVERTEBRATES DISTRIBUTION AND COMMUNITY STRUCTURE AS INDICATORS OF ENVIRONMENTAL CHANGE; AND ROAD DUST EFFECTS ON TUNDRA VEGETATION ALONG HAUL ROAD. THESE INVESTIGATIONS ARE MENTIONED SIMPLY TO INDICATE THE DIVERSITY OF BIOLOGIC RESEARCH WORK WHICH WILL BE UNDERTAKEN IN ALASKA THIS SUMMER. THE NATURE OF THE WORK MAY BE OF INTEREST TO THE SOVIET SIDE IN CONNECTION WITH SELECTION OF MEMBERS OF THE COMBINED A-1 AND A-2 DELEGATIONS.

5. ACTIVITY A-3 02.05-2103, DISEASES AND PARASITES OF WILD ANIMALS.

(A) US SIDE IS UNABLE SEND SPECIALIST TO THE USSR IN 1977. HOWEVER, THE US SIDE WILL RECEIVE TWO SOVIET SPECIALISTS FOR TWO TO THREE WEEKS IN ALASKA IN LATE AUGUST AND EARLY SEPTEMBER TO WORK WITH ROBERT DIETRICH AND GEORGE WEST AT THE UNIVERSITY OF ALASKA. IT IS ANTICIPATED THAT

THE SOVIET DELEGATION WILL INCLUDE DR. V. ZABRODIN AND ONE OR TWO ASSOCIATES. THE US SIDE NEEDS TO LEARN BY MAY 1 FROM DR. VASIL ZABRODIN WHETHER THE SOVIET SIDE PLANS TO DO FIELD OR LABORATORY WORK OR OBSERVE ASPECTS OF REINDEER POPULATION, VEGETATION, AND GRAZING. US SIDE UNDERSTANDS UNCLASSIFIED

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A-3A AND A-4A SPECIALISTS MAY BE COMBINED IN ONE DELEGATION.

(B) THE SOVIET SIDE HAS INDICATED THAT IT CAN RECEIVE THREE TO FOUR US SPECIALISTS IN MAGADAN INCLUDING DR. AND MRS. ROBERT RAUSCH, DR. KENNETH NEILAND, AND POSSIBLY DR. EVERETT SCHILLER OF JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY FOR ONE MONTH. THE US SIDE PREFERS VISIT TAKE PLACE IN JULY IF POSSIBLE.

6. ACTIVITY A-4 02.05-2104, ECOLOGY AND MANAGEMENT OF UNGULATES.

(A) US SIDE WILL RECEIVE THREE SOVIET SPECIALISTS FOR THREE WEEKS. DR. DAVID KLEIN HAS INDICATED IN LETTER TO DR. VASILI ZABRODIN THAT HE WILL RECEIVE DELEGATION FROM JULY 10 TO 30, IF POSSIBLE, AND HOPES THAT BIOLOGISTS BORZHONOV AND ZIRYANOV WILL BE ABLE TO PARTICIPATE IN THE DELEGATION. WE UNDERSTAND THE SOVIET SIDE DESIRES TO COMBINE INTO ONE DELEGATION A-3A AND A-4A IN A THREE PERSON DELEGATION FOR A PERIOD OF 21 DAYS IN THIRD QUARTER; IT IS URGENTLY NECESSARY THAT US SIDE LEARN WHO WILL BE COMING AND THE DATES OF THE VISIT.

(B) THE SOVIET SIDE HAS INDICATED THAT IT WILL BE ABLE TO RECEIVE US SPECIALISTS FOR FAMILIARIZATION WITH REINDEER SLAUGHTER PRACTICES. THE US SIDE PROPOSES TO SEND DR. JACK LUICK AND DR. ROBERT DIETRICH, UNIVERSITY OF ALASKA AND PERHAPS, ONE SPECIALIST FROM THE BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS, DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR. THE US SIDE HAS INDICATED THAT PRIORITY LIES WITH SENDING SEVERAL US ESKIMOS TO THE USSR FOR FAMILIARIZATION WITH REINDEER HUSBANDRY PRACTICES. THE SOVIET SIDE HAS AGREED TO EXAMINE THE POSSIBILITY OF RECEIVING A FOUR TO SIX MAN DELEGATION COMPOSED OF SPECIALISTS AND ESKIMOS. PLEASE INFORM AS SOON AS POSSIBLE HOW MANY US DELEGATES THE SOVIET SIDE WILL BE ABLE TO RECEIVE. PERHAPS A VISIT TO THE UNCLASSIFIED

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TAYMYR PENINSULA AND TO THE REINDEER HUSBANDRY TRAINING SCHOOL AT DUDINKA CAN BE ARRANGED FOR THIS PURPOSE.

(C) ON THE QUESTION OF MUSKOX ECOLOGY, THE US SIDE WILL BE UNABLE TO RECEIVE A SOVIET GEOBOTANIST ON NUNIVAK ISLAND THIS YEAR AS NO EXPEDITION IS PROJECTED.

7. ACTIVITY B-1 02.05-2105, PERMAFROST-RELATED ENVIRONMENTAL/PIPELINE PROBLEM.

(A) SOVIET SIDE WAS SUPPOSED TO SEND TO US SIDE IN DECEMBER 1976 PROPOSALS REGARDING SOVIET VISIT TO THE US. WE HAVE NOT RECEIVED THESE PROPOSALS AND UNLESS WE RECEIVE THEM SOON US SIDE WILL NOT BE ABLE TO PREPARE FOR THE

VISIT. WE MUST HAVE INFORMATION AS SOON AS POSSIBLE BUT NOT LATER THAN MAY 1.

(B) US SIDE WILL RECEIVE ONE SOVIET SPECIALIST AT UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN TO COLLABORATE WITH DR. SAM OUTCALT IN AUGUST 1977 ON COMPUTER DATA AND MODELING METHODS IN CONNECTION WITH HEAT TRANSFER PROCESSES. US SIDE SUGGESTS THAT DR. GRAVE ACCOMPANY THIS SPECIALIST AS PART OF TWO SPECIALISTS VISIT AGREED UPON UNDER B-1. PLEASE CONFIRM THIS SUGGESTION WITH DR. MELNIKOV. IF GRAVE CANNOT PARTICIPATE IN THIS HE SHOULD BE INCLUDED IN THE 6-8 MAN PIPELINE DELEGATION AND REMAIN 15 EXTRA DAYS IN THE US. PLEASE CONFIRM BY CABLE BY MAY 1, 1977.

8. ACTIVITY B-2, 02.05-2106, EFFECTS OF WILDFIRE, FIRE CONTROL AND LOGGING.

THE US SIDE IS PLEASED TO RECEIVE REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE USSR TO THE INSTITUTE OF NORTHERN FORESTRY SYMPOSIUM TO BE HELD AT THE UNIVERSITY OF ALASKA, SEPTEMBER 19-22. DR. LES VIERECK REPORTS THAT SYMPOSIUM ORGANIZERS URGE SOVIET PARTICIPANTS TO PLAN TO PRESENT PAPERS OF 15 MINUTES  
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TO 1 HOUR IN LENGTH AT THE SYMPOSIUM. PLEASE NOTIFY US SIDE OF TITLES SHOULD SOVIET SIDE DECIDE TO PRESENT PAPERS.

9. IT IS PROPOSED THAT THE US-USSR WORKING GROUP MEETING BE HELD IN ALASKA FOR 14 DAYS IN THE SECOND HALF OF SEPTEMBER.

10. I URGE YOU, EVEGENY, TO RESPOND WITH THE NECESSARY DETAILS OF PROPOSED VISITS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. WE CANNOT PLAN FOR THESE VISITS UNLESS WE HAVE SOME COMMITMENTS ON TIMES AND PEOPLE. IT WOULD BE UNFORTUNATE IF ANY VISITS HAVE TO BE CANCELED SIMPLY BECAUSE WE HAVE NOT COMMUNICATED SOON ENOUGH. WE MUST LEARN PLANS OF SOVIET SIDE FOR THESE VISITS SOON.

BEST REGARDS TO YOU AND YOUR WIFE.

DR. R.O. SKOOG  
PROJECT LEADER  
02.05-21

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## Message Attributes

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